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Remember the Victims of September 11

A Publication of the
Hispanic Communication &
Development Corporation

Wednesday, September 11, 2002
Volume 16
Number 1



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COMMUNITY ACTIVIST ESTHER MATA SUCCUMBS TO CANCER



Esther Mata, lifelong San Bernardino resident and community activist, succumbed to cancer on August 31, 2002. A Memorial Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Cathedral was celebrated by family, friends and community leaders.

Photo courtesy of Joyce Lopez Brown

Friends and community leaders joined family members in paying final respects to Esther Mata at a church-filled Memorial Mass at Our Lady of the Holy Rosary Cathedral, San Bernardino.

Very Reverend Father Robert Miller, pastor, eulogized Esther Mata as a devoted mother, grandmother and great-

grandmother, dedicated to her church and, as he observed at the church-filled audience, a person involved in her community.

Daughter Bernardine Leutz spoke of her mother as an adoring mother who was always there for her family. "Sometimes, though, I had to make appointments with her because of her dedication to her church and community," she said.

The Inland Empire has, indeed, lost one of its most outstanding community leaders who was instrumental in promoting the interest and well-being of the Hispanic community, and the greater community, in the Inland Empire.

Esther Mata, a fighter who, at times, forcefully fought for socio-economic, educational and political justice to improve the many lives in her communities, lost her greatest fight when she succumbed to cancer on Saturday, August 31st at Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in Fontana.

Mata, 66, was recognized as an organizer and innovator of concepts for change, ready to become involved in

Continue on page 10

SINFONIA MEXICANA TO PRESENT OUTSTANDING MUSICAL PROGRAM AT ARROWHEAD CREDIT UNION STADIUM



The Sinfonia Mexicana Committee announced its fall program with the theme, "Recuerdos" featuring famous songs composed by Agustín Lara, Jose Alfredo Jimenez and Lola Beltrán. The program will be staged at the Arrowhead Credit Union Stadium, 489 So. "E" Street, San Bernardino on October 5, beginning at 6:00 PM. Trio Los Panchos will pay homage to Lucha Villa and Juan Gabriel. Pictured above are the Trio Los Panchos, Jose Dominguez, left, Jesus "Chucho" Navarro Moreno, Jr. center, son of the founder of the famous trio and Andres Arciniega. The program will also include Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano and Mariachi Mujer. Nati Cano is designated as the artistic director for the event. Tickets may be purchased at the Sinfonia Mexicana office at 468 W. 5th Street, San Bernardino, 92401, tel. (909) 884-3228 and at the ACU Stadium, (909) 888-9922.

LISA ANNE-MARIE TENORIO YOUNG SOPRANO EXTRAORDINAIRE

See article on page 13



Lisa Anne-Marie Tenorio, a young soprano who has developed an early musical career and a future foundation in the operatic field.

Photo courtesy of the Tenorio family

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY DEDICATES MIDDLE SCHOOL IN MEMORY OF HOMETOWN HERO

By Marvin Portillo

See article on page 18



Ysmael Villegas - Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient

ANNUAL SALUTE TO THE ROUTE SLATED FOR SEPTEMBER 21ST

See article on page 13



San Bernardino Mayor Judith Valles, (left) presented the City's Proclamation Resolution for the Annual Salute to the Route to Danny Flores, (second to left) founder of the Westside event and event president, with June Durr, City of San Bernardino's Marketing Director and event committee member. Photo by IEHN

SEP 17 2002

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RADIO HOST AND COMMUNITY ACTIVIST, ANNOUNCES BID FOR FONTANA CITY COUNCIL

Rafael Aguilar came to the United States for a chance to live the American Dream; Now the KDIF news reporter want to give back to his community



Rafael Aguilar announced his candidacy for the Fontana City Council in the November 5 elections. Aguilar immigrated to the United States and is a successful news reporter for RADIO KDIF and a community activist. He wants to give back to the community by running for the city council.

Photo courtesy of Aguilar Campaign

FONTANA – America's policies may be under attack in many parts of the world, but Rafael Aguilar knows the value of the American dream.

Aguilar came to the United States at the age of 16, worked in the garment industry, restaurants, studied English, graduated from high school, com-

pleted some college courses, studied Broadcasting and eventually landed a job as a news reporter for KDIF in Riverside, one of the Inland Empire's top Spanish language radio stations.

Now, at 38 Aguilar is ready to give back to his community by announcing his intent to run for the Fontana City Council.

"In many ways, mine is the face of a new generation in Fontana and the Inland Empire," Aguilar said, "I'm young. I'm hardworking. And I'm looking to build a better life for my family and for my community."

Aguilar believes his background is particularly suited to Fontana. He not only knows local issues because of his reporting background, but he knows what it's like not to have a stable, local government that reflects the desires and needs of its people.

"People take so much for granted in this country," he said. "I know I can serve the city with the enthusiasm of someone who knows what its like not to have the democratic values and public services that are so important for a growing community."

Aguilar said key objectives of his candidacy will be business development, public safety and the expansion of local parks and recreational opportunities, including cultural events.

Aguilar is already well known in the Inland Empire Latino community for his involvement with literacy campaigns, youth sports, community events, fundraisers for non-profit groups and emergency relief efforts for Latin American countries. He also earned several "Partner in Education" awards for his efforts to increase parental involvement in local schools in Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

The Fontana City Council seat is important, Aguilar said, because it provides him with a vehicle to ensure that the city policies and initiatives reflect the needs of the growing numbers of young families who are attracted to the Inland Empire because of its relatively affordable housing and job opportunities.

For more information on Aguilar's candidacy, call (909) 822-0994

FUTURE LEADERS CONFERENCE

By Dr. Tom M. Rivera



One Hundred Twenty Hispanic eighth- and ninth-grade Students from San Bernardino, Riverside and Los Angeles counties participated in this year's Inland Empire Future Leaders Program (IEFLP). This year's program was held at the Desert Sun Science Center in Idyllwild, August 4-9.

The program's goals are to encourage the students to stay in school, strive for academic excellence, get involved in school, church and community and eventually earn a college degree, says Dr. Tom M. Rivera, associate dean of Undergraduate Studies at Cal State. He chairs the IEFLP board of directors.

Participating youngsters attended a six day summer camp where leadership and communication skills were emphasized in combination with cultural workshops.

"I didn't expect to learn so much from the Program; about going to college, my culture, and meeting new people. If you really want to, you can get ahead with hard work and education," says Martin Rubio, a freshman at Arroyo High School.

The program first started in 1985 and, to date, over 2,100 students have participated in the program. Four-year follow-up surveys have shown that 99 percent of students attending the program graduate from high school and 90 percent attend college. This high rate of success accounts for the popularity of the program among students, parents, educators, and community supporters.

Several representatives from area school districts and community service organizations joined with 46 former Future Leaders who volunteered their services in conducting the program. One such group was the Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernar-

dino whose members used their professional expertise to encourage the students to participate in community service projects.

Funding for the program is provided by several companies, community groups, and individuals including: Arrowhead Credit Union; Congressman Joe Baca; Bank of America; California Federal Bank; California State University, San Bernardino; Reynaldo J. Carreon M.D. Foundation; Frito Lay, Inc; Riverside Kaiser Permanente Latino Association; Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino; Labor Council for Latin American Advancement; Laidlaw, Inc; The Pepsi Bottling Group; John Regalado Memorial Fund; Mr. Augustin Rios; Ms. Erica Torner; and United States Department of Agriculture.

Additional information is available from Dr. Tom M. Rivera by calling (909) 880-5044

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO HAVE LATINO AWARENESS WEEK

Latino Awareness Week, The County of San Bernardino, Department of Behavioral Health will hold a celebration on September 17, 2002 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at La Casa Ramona located at 1543 West Eighth Street, San Bernardino.

Food will be provided for sale and raffle prizes, in addition to information to the community on services provided by the department

For further information call (909) 386-5415.

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LULAC ANNOUNCES NEW ACTION AGAINST NBC

WASHINGTON, DC – In a major decision by the nation's oldest and largest Latino civil rights organization, the actions against NBC and TELEMUNDO are being stepped up and expanded to include advertisers and a call for a federal probe.

"We are very disappointed that NBC and TELEMUNDO have left us no alternative but to seek redress through stronger, increased pressure and we are resolved not to relent until they change their treatment of Latino employees," said Hector Flores, President of the League of Latin American Citizens, LULAC.

The LULAC National Executive Board voted unanimously to immediately notify all national and local advertisers of NBC and TELEMUNDO of the reports of mistreatment of Latino employees and to request that they reconsider placing commercials on either network or their affiliates.

"It is not good business for these advertisers to support companies that refuse to address and resolve issues of unfair or unequal treatment of Latino employees, particularly when these advertisers are trying to get Latinos to buy their products or services," said Flores. "Their money can be better spent elsewhere."

Flores stated that LULAC contacted NBC in early July about reports of harassment and intimidation of Latinos within TELEMUNDO and the lack of Latinos on national news programs on NBC. LULAC requested that NBC address these specific issues by July 31st, a deadline the network failed to meet.

"Now, several weeks later and only after we sent them more letters demanding answers, they told us they will not release any data and deny that there's a problem. It is clear that they are not being forthright about the intimidation tactics at TELEMUNDO and they choose to ignore the reality we see on NBC every day by the absence of qualified and experienced Latinos of all nationalities," said Flores.

Another action included within the resolution calls for an investigation by the U. S. Labor Department, Office of Federal Contract Compliance (OFCC) that oversees the employment practices of government contractors.

"We are requesting that the employment and promotion practices of NBC and TELEMUNDO be audited by the OFCC since they are wholly-owned subsidiaries of General Electric, one of the largest defense contractors in the United States. Also, they make enormous profits from taxpayer-funded advertising while ignoring the federal labor laws which govern them," Flores added.

LULAC also authorized action by the LULAC state and district leaders to immediately notify local NBC and TELEMUNDO station managers that they will stage pickets and other public demonstrations in markets throughout the United States. The initial cities include Washington DC, Chicago, Houston, Dallas, Los Angeles and New York.

"I don't think NBC can afford to continue ignoring us when we show up outside the TODAY SHOW studios with signs telling Middle America what's going on. I don't think Katie Couric or Matt Lauer would enjoy that anymore than their Latino colleagues enjoy what they are having to endure right now," concluded Flores.

LULAC is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights group and advances economic development, fair housing and employment and educational opportunities for Latinos. The organization has more than 700 councils throughout the United States and seeks to work with Latinos of all nationalities.

STATE DEPARTMENT SEEKS APPLICATIONS FOR 2003/2004 PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The United States Department of State is seeking applications for its internship program. It has released a new internship brochure with information about the program, forms, and application requirements.

The program offers students practical experience in their fields of study in Washington, D.C., and in overseas embassies and consulates around the world. U.S. citizens who are at least juniors in college and who are continuing students are eligible to apply. The deadline for applying is November 1 for summer internships, March 1 for fall internships, and July 1 for spring, 2004 internships.

More information and application materials can be obtained from the State Department's website www.careers.state.gov. Paper copies of the brochure can be obtained from Congressman Baca's District Office, 201 N. E. Street, Suite 102, San Bernardino, CA 92401, or through the State Department's website.

Libreria del Pueblo Anuncia Su Fiesta de la Mujer Sept. 27

Librería del Pueblo, Inc., una organización no lucrativa, cordialmente los invita a su cena y baile (fundraiser) Fiesta de la Mujer, donde cada año se reconoce a mujeres Hispánicas que han luchado para mejorar la comunidad.

El evento se llevará a cabo el 27 de Septiembre, 2002, de 6 p.m. a 12 p.m. en el Hotel Radisson en San Bernardino, California.

Al nivel de negocios estamos aceptando donaciones. Con su donación se incluye comida para ocho personas y publicidad en el programa del evento.

El costo individual es \$40.00. Para mas información o para reservar su lugar, llame al (909) 888-1800 y pregunte por Erika, Rubén o Eva. Bebidas no están incluidas.

Libreria del Pueblo to Host Fiesta de la Mujer Sept. 27

Libreria del Pueblo, Inc., a not-for-profit organization, cordially invites you to its annual dinner and dance (fundraiser) Fiesta de la Mujer, where every year women who have fought for the betterment of the Hispanic community are recognized.

This year's event is taking place September 27, 2002, from 6 p.m. to 12 midnight at the Radisson Hotel in San Bernardino, California.

We are accepting sponsorships at the corporate and business levels. Your sponsorship includes seating for eight guests and advertising space in the event's program.

The cost for individual is \$40.00. For more information or to make a reservation, dial (909) 888-1800 and ask for Erika, Ruben or Eva. Drinks are not included.

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293 North D St.
(909) 888-1800

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Our Office Locations

Calpulli Program
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(909) 383-0540

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(909) 875-3890



KIDS CARE FAIR DRAWS RECORD CROWD



On Saturday, August 24, Community Hospital of San Bernardino (CHSB) welcomed approximately 3,500 attendees to its annual Kids Care Fair. Nearly 800 children aged two months to 18 years took advantage of the free immunizations and health screenings. More than 300 community and hospital volunteers contributed their time and skills to assist at this worthwhile event. Included in that number were more than 100 doctors, nurses and other health care professionals who administered the immunizations and conducted overall health evaluations. Screenings included vision, scoliosis, height and weight, blood pressure and dental assessments.

After the immunizations and screenings children and their families were

treated to a variety of entertainment. Live bands and dance troupes performed continuously throughout the event. Attendees enjoyed free food and refreshments at umbrella-covered tables near the stage. More than 50 exhibitors offered free health care information on topics ranging from asthma, poison prevention, infant care, insurance referrals and water safety. Face painting, clowns, balloon animals and moon bouncers turned the potentially scary health care experience into a fun and enjoyable day.

The annual event is an expression of CHSB's commitment to providing health care services to the community it serves. Its purpose is to detect health problems early, and offer families referrals and information to obtain any needed health care services.

Community Hospital of San Bernardino, a not-for-profit organization, has a long tradition of providing needed health care services to residents of San Bernardino and its surrounding com-

munities. Founded in 1908, CHSB is the second oldest medical center in San Bernardino and its services include a 291-bed acute care hospital. Community Hospital of San Bernardino is a member of Catholic Healthcare West.



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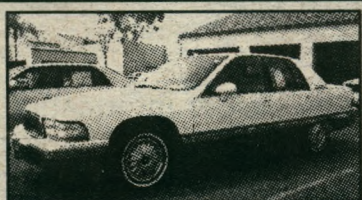
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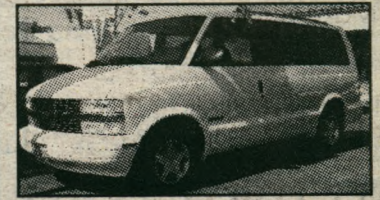
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AIR FORCE A BOON TO STUDENTS PURSUING HIGHER EDUCATION AND TRAINING

By Marvin Portillo



MSgt. Richard Gonzales (right) explains the nature of his job at Edwards Air Force Base in the mobile patrol unit as Air Man Andy Palmer holds his post atop a Humbee. The air base has increased security onsite in the past year.

In time of conflict the U.S. Air Force spreads its wings on land and air to protect what is of value to Americans, but many observers miss the vast educational and professional opportunities in time of peace.

As the only branch of the military to offer formal education to enlisted members through the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF), the U.S. Air Force is arguably the better choice in the armed forces for those who are looking toward a professional career and a college education.

Enlisted members may choose from a variety of colleges, universities and technical training programs to achieve their educational goals. Both military personnel and instructors from affiliated colleges teach CCAF courses.

Edwards Air Force Base near Palmdale, Calif. has eight on-base colleges and universities offering four associate's, 10 bachelor's and four master's programs, including an MBA (master's in business administration) program. The Educational Resource Service Center on base serves 6,884 military and civilian personnel.

"I am a product of the educational programs," said Val Vera, educational services officer at Edwards Air Force Base. "When I came to the Air Force, I was a high school graduate. I was taking courses because my friends were taking courses. I started piling up the credits, and after a while I had 30 credits or so."

CCAF was introduced during that time, Vera said, and he enrolled in a program to complete an associate's degree. After earning an associate's degree while working full time, he continued taking courses and earned a bachelor's from the University of Maryland.

"I figured I might as well keep on going," Vera said. Vera eventually earned a master's in education from the University of Virginia as he served his remaining time in the Pentagon working in education and training. Vera, who dedicated 23 years in active duty before retiring in 1984, has witnessed firsthand the educational benefits offered through the Air Force.

The Air Force has funded as much as 75 percent for college tuition based on \$250 per semester hour, Vera said. Assuming a course costs \$250 per hour, the Air Force funds \$187.50 or 75 percent, and students pay the remaining 25 percent, or \$62.50. Tuition assistance has a cap of \$3,500 per fiscal year, but the amount will jump to \$4,500 in October.

Those who have reached the \$4,500 limit for the year may use funds from the Montgomery G. I. Bill and VA (Veterans Administration) benefits to fund their education, Vera said. Eligibility for the Montgomery G. I. Bill is two years of active duty, but a period of 10 years is allowed to reap the benefits after separation or retirement from the Air Force.

The Montgomery G. I. Bill is increasing from \$28,800 to \$32,400 in October, and the benefits may be used to fund a master's or Ph.D. education, Vera said.

Col. Wendy Masiello, 95th Air Base Wing Vice-Commander at Edwards Air Force Base, can attest to the educational and professional opportunities with Air Force. She is a graduate of the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program at Texas Tech University, where she actively participated in ROTC as she worked on her bachelor's degree.

"Educationally, it's been huge," Masiello said. "I've had terrific opportunity that I try to spread to other people."

Upon graduation, she discovered a renewed interest for learning in a master's program at the Air Force Institute of Technology in Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, she said.

Masiello graduated after 15 months and continued her education at Industrial College of the Armed Forces, where she earned another master's degree, this time in strategic resources management.

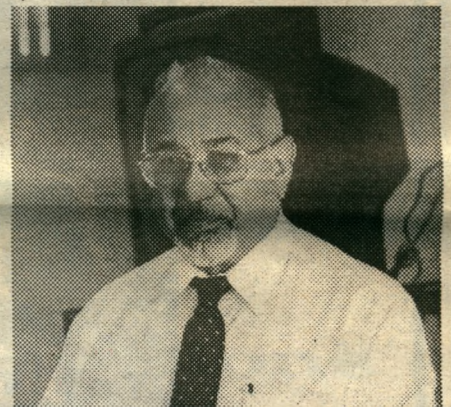
A report released in September 2001 indicated that 81 percent (81%) of the Air Force's nearly 290,000 active members hold a high school diploma, 14 percent (14%) earned an associate's degree or its equivalent in hours and 5 percent (5%) acquired a bachelor's degree or higher. Among officers, classified as such because they hold at least a bachelor's degree, 46 percent (46%) had a bachelor's degree and 54 percent (54%) had an advanced or professional degree.

In proportion to their general national population figures, Hispanics comprise only about five percent of the Air Force's personnel, according to the Air Force Personnel Center. Local recruiters such as SSgt. Tanisha Talley are working diligently to increase Hispanic representation. She said that in the past, Hispanic high school graduates have not demonstrated eagerness to join the Air Force.

Vera said deciding a career in the Air Force should be a well-informed decision, because life in the military is demanding. The reward of his job is to see students receive their degrees at the commencement ceremony.

"Probably the best thing is to see their faces when they get their CCAF degrees," Vera said. "The colonel and chief master sergeants are there to cheer them on. Their peers are there; their families are there. I get to see the fruits of their efforts."

Contact your local recruiter or SSgt. Tanisha Talley at (909) 885-2848 or (909) 885-9598 for more information.



Val Vera, who retired after 23 years of active duty with the Air Force, currently helps guide enlisted members in attaining their educational goals at Edwards Air Force Base. He is an educational services officer contractor with the Department of Defense.

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BEA CORTEZ-GRAND TERRACE CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE



Bea Cortez has declared her candidacy for the Grand Terrace city Council. A three decade resident of the city, Cortez has experiences in the legislative and judicial fields with state elected officials.

Photo courtesy of Cortez Campaign

After residing in Grand Terrace for over three decades, Bea Cortez decided that running for the city council would give her an opportunity to serve her community and simultaneously provide the city counsel with her professional experience in the legislative and judicial fields.

"I have spent my entire life working with legislators and the legal system and feel that it is important and of great satisfaction in assisting people to resolve difficulties with government agencies and other problems-solving situations," Cortez said.

Cortez is currently field representative for Assemblywoman Gloria Negrete McLeod. Her responsibilities involved meeting with residents with problems with the state and reaching resolutions. Other duties include representing the Assemblywoman McLeod at community meetings and functions.

Additional government-related experiences include working as field representative for Assemblyman John Longville and Senator Nell Soto, and community and client liaison for David Turch and Associates of Washington, D.C.

Cortez stated that the main issues are petitioning the Colton School Board for establishing a high school in the area; the continuance of city beautification project; improvement of the ingress and egress of traffic conditions; and build incentives for attracting businesses to vacant buildings, thus increasing the city's tax base.

A community activist, Cortez is a member of the Grand Terrace Chamber of Commerce, Women's Club, Second Harvest Food Bank, Arrowhead United Way, Casa de San Bernardino, Inland Valley Professional, Colton USD Oversight Committee, Grand Terrace PTA, and other community organizations in the Inland Empire.

Cortez is endorsed by Congressman Joe Baca, Assemblypersons John Longville and Gloria Negrete McLeod, Mayors Bill Alexander, David Eshleman, Grace Vargas and Deidre Bennett, Carpenters Local 944, Attorney John Marcus, President Larry Sharp and Senior Vice President Maurice Calderon-Arrowhead Credit Union, Ray Abril, Jr., Crafton College President Gloria Harrison, and many others.

Her children are Carmille, 25, and Robert 23.

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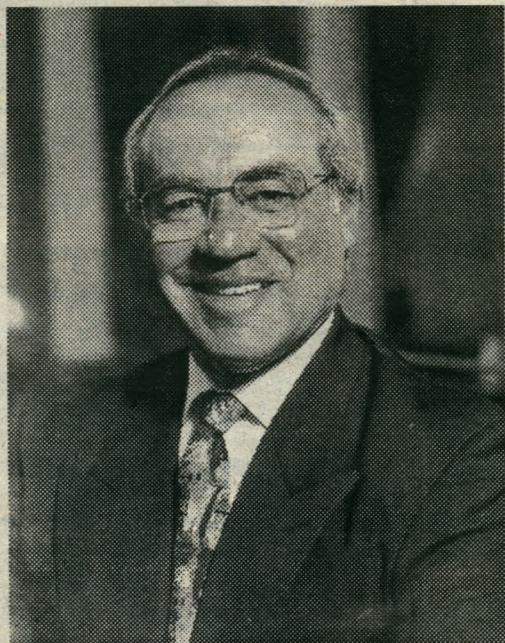


A message from California Department of Health Services funded by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture Department of Public Health Nutrition Program Human Services System County of San Bernardino Project LEAN and the Nutrition Network Grant #99-85867

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Congressman 42nd District

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FORMER TEACHER'S ASSISTANT TAKES THE HELM IN THE CLASSROOM



LOS ANGELES, CA – In a state where 300,000 new teachers will be needed over the next decade, paraeducators (individuals who work in the classroom assisting teachers while earning their credentials make ideal teacher candidates themselves.

Jose Rodriguez, a fifth grade teacher at Heliotrope Elementary in Maywood, California is a prime example of a paraeducator who took the extra steps to pursue the helm of his own classroom. After an unsatisfying engineering internship in college, Rodriguez began to explore different career options. A friend at Heliotrope Elementary, who was a paraeducator,

introduced Rodriguez to the concept. After a couple of weeks, Rodriguez switched majors at Cal State Los Angeles from engineering to child development.

"Once in the classroom, I had a lot of fun," exclaims Rodriguez, who is now credentialed, finishing up his master's degree and looking into doctoral programs. "I had forgotten how much of a difference one person can make. It sounds cliché, but you really impact their lives in many different ways. You can make students feel like they are a part of something bigger; letting them know they can do anything they set their minds to. To me, that's awesome."

For Rodriguez, the son of immigrant farm workers from Mexico, the transition from engineering to teaching was a dubious one. He didn't know what was required or expected, especially after three years of taking math-related coursework. A support program offered through the Los Angeles Unified School District called the Paraeducator Career Ladder helped him maneuver the tricky waters that separate a paraeducator from a fully credentialed teacher. Today, Rodriguez

leads some of the Paraeducator Career Ladder workshops he sat in just a few years ago.

According to Steve Brandick, director of the LAUSD Paraeducator Career Ladder, the Paraeducator Career Ladder programs are invaluable to potential teachers because they impart support on different levels.

"Our program provides guidance, assistance with state-mandated exams, tuition reimbursement and hiring assistance," said Brandick. "The ultimate goal is to help paraeducators become credentialed teachers."

Rodriguez' commitment to teaching and education, in general, is evident in the way he conducts his classes. He has built a strong bond with his fifth graders in the two years he has taught them. Rodriguez' priorities are not only introducing state-required fifth grade concepts to his students, but also instilling in them the fact that, above all else, education offers options – options that many of the low income, minority

children in Maywood unfortunately don't have. He teaches this valuable lesson by using real life examples.

"I draw a diagram showing all the levels of education, from kindergarten straight through an advanced degree," Rodriguez explains. "Then I ask them, 'if you only graduate from junior high, what can you do, and from high school, and from the university.' They'll come up with different answers accordingly. Then I ask, 'if you have a Ph.D. can you still sell elotes, or paletas?' They'll answer 'no' in unison. But then I explain 'yes, you can, because education is all about choices. You're not limited to just one.'

Rodriguez' excursions with his classroom to local universities, such as UCLA and USC, solidify in his students' young minds that anything is possible. "Once they step foot on those campuses, they realize it can happen for them. They begin to think, 'Oh my

Continue on Page 9



CELEBRATE

Freedom and Independence

San Bernardino County Schools joins the Hispanic community as it commemorates Mexican Independence Day on September 16th.

EDUCATION: TOMORROW'S FUTURE

Herbert R. Fischer, Ph.D., Superintendent
San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools



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Donald Singer

San Bernardino
Community College District Board

joins the
Hispanic Community in the Celebration
of
Hispanic Heritage Month



Felicitó a la Comunidad Mexicana
En la Celebración de
La Independencia de México

Rachel Mendoza Clark

City Clerk, City of San Bernardino



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HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH ACTIVITIES

TRADITIONAL BILINGUAL BREAKFAST

The Traditional Bilingual Breakfast group have scheduled the monthly breakfast on Friday, September 20, 2002 at Mitla's Café, 602 No. Mount Vernon Avenue, San Bernardino at 7:00 a.m. Special keynote speaker: Arturo Rodriguez, president United Farm Workers of America. Rodriguez will speak on "The Legacy of Cesar Chavez and the Role of Farm Workers."

The public is requested to RSVP by September 13th, checks to be mailed to Marisol Naso, English Learners and Support Programs, 777 No. "F" Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410. Cost per person: \$5.50.

THE MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL OF THE RIVERSIDE MUSEUM ASSOCIATES PRESENTS: FAMILY VILLAGE FESTIVAL AT RIVERSIDE MUNICIPAL MUSEUM

At 3580 Mission Inn Avenue, Riverside, CA, All Cultures Participating. The finest Community Cultural Event: Exciting cultural entertainment, Creative children's workshops, Passport to Culture, Ethnic food at family friendly prices. Saturday, September 14, 2002, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. For more information contact the Museum (909) 826-5273.

28TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL DAYS FESTIVAL - A WORLD UNITED!

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FREE drawings, games, Red Hatter hats, admission, arts & crafts for kids. Saturday & Sunday-September 14th & 15th, 3:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at Veteran's Park, 17255 Merrill Avenue, Fontana, CA. For more information call the special event Hotline: (909) 428-8360 Ext. 232.

"16 de SEPTIEMBRE" MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE-FOOD - MUSIC PRIZES

At the Bandstand on Euclid Ave., Ontario. Special Guests: Ontario Mayor Gary Ovitt, Assemblywoman Gloria Negrette McCloud, Gray Davis Rep. Peter Aguilar, Senator Nell Soto, Adolfo M. Rojo, Mayor of Guamuchil Sinaloa Mexico, Monday, September 16th 2002, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Co-Sponsors: Ontario Chamber of Commerce and the Latino Business Council. For more information please call the Ontario Chamber of Commerce at (909) 984-2458.

GREATER RIVERSIDE HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - SEPTEMBER MIXER

At Kaiser Permanente Medical Center Auditorium - 10800 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside (Enter at Medical Office Building 2). On Monday, September 16, 2002, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. For more information, contact the GRHCC office, (909) 682-7422.

FIESTAS PATRIAS

The Ontario Hispanic Chamber of Commerce invites you to participate in the celebration of Mexican Independence (EL GRITO) and Central America countries. The celebration will take place at Euclid Ave. median in Downtown Ontario on Sunday, September 15, 2002 from 12 pm to 8 pm.



FORMER TEACHER'S ASSISTANT TAKES THE HELM IN THE CLASSROOM

Continued From Page 8

gosh, I can live here," he says. This attitude is what drives Rodriguez.

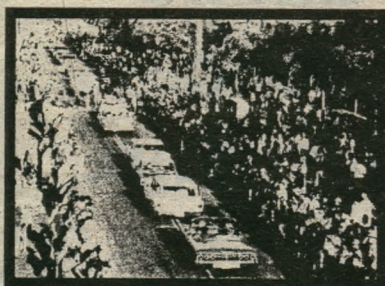
California faces a shortage of qualified teachers largely driven by an ever-expanding student enrollment, mandated class size reduction and the growing attrition of today's teacher workforce as a large proportion reach retirement age.

The California Center for Teaching Careers (CalTeach) is a one stop information, recruitment and referral service for individuals considering or pursuing a teaching career. CalTeach, administered by the CSU Chancellor's Office, can be reached by phone at 1-888-CALTEACH (225-8322), or via the Internet at www.calteach.com. CalTeach also works closely with the California Teacher Recruitment Incentive Program (CalTRIP). Six centers are located in Sacramento, Tulare, San Bernardino, Los Angeles and San Diego. The teacher recruitment centers provide job placement assistance by partnering with local school districts to ensure that teachers are placed in classrooms through a seamless and efficient hiring process. These centers can be reached through the CalTeach helpline at 1-888-CALTEACH (225-8322).



September 19-22, 2002

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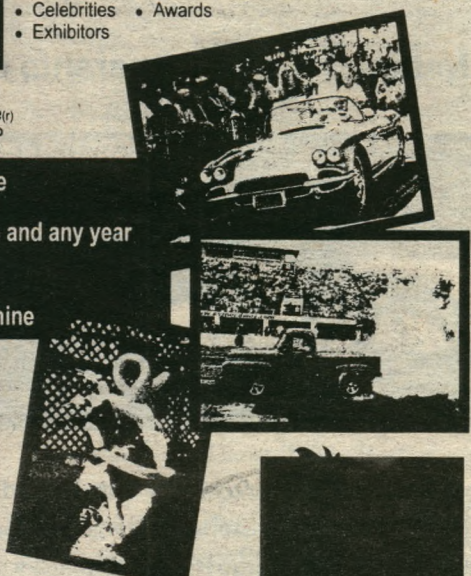


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COMMUNITY ACTIVIST ESTHER MATA SUCCUMBS TO CANCER

myriad of causes to impact the advancement of the quality of life in the community that she loved.

Born in Ludlow, the family moved to San Bernardino in the 1940's. She graduated from San Bernardino High School and earned an AA and other professional certificates from San Bernardino Valley College.

During her tenure as an administrator for the Social Security Administration, Mata exemplified outstanding professionalism in her job performance, according to Graciano Gomez, a longtime friend. "I met Esther in the early 1960's and was pleased that she used those job skills to augment the many programs in the community," he said. "Esther was unafraid to stand up and voice concerns on issues affecting the community."

One of Mata's outstanding accomplishments was as co-founder of the Inland Empire Hispanic News in 1986, a publication distributed in the Inland Empire. She was a strong proponent that the mission of the publication be to project the positive attributes of activities, role models, information vehicle and other aspects of its community to be available to the Hispanic population. The 16-year newspaper's mission statement is, as yet, in effect in its current operations.

She was also a co-founder of the Inland Counties Hispanic Roundtable in 1988, along with Robert Martinez,

former director of the Behavioral Health Department and Graciano Gomez, publisher of the Inland Empire Hispanic News. She served as its president in 1991. The ICHR was an umbrella organization that identified Hispanic organizations and coordinated activities and advocated for social programs in the area. ICHR has recently been reorganized.

Mata was a co-founder of the Sinfonia Mexicana in 1985, a group promoting Mexican symphony and mariachi concerts and presenting outstanding Mexican conductors in the Inland Empire. She served as the group's president for two terms. The Sinfonia Mexicana is a major attraction throughout Southern California.

Mata served as president of the Inland Empire Hispanic Chamber in 1984 and 1985, and was considered one of its most prolific presidents in promoting Hispanic businesses. She was instrumental in the development of an assessment survey of Hispanic's needs and evaluation of economic factors affecting the community.

During her tenure as an administrator for the Social Security Administration, Mata was involved with MAPA, Mexican American Professional Management Association, American G.I. Forum, San Salvador Church Advisory Board, League of Women Voters, Villasenor Library Task Force, Sister Cities-Mexicali/Villa Hermosa, Latino Impact, Brown

Baggers.

Other groups included the Soroptomist, Urban League, Tournament of Roses Committee, Zonta International, American Business Women's Association, Mount Vernon Business Corridor Project Committee, and other professional and social groups.

"Esther Mata was a wonderful person who cared for her community. Her beautiful spirit will continue to live with all of us"

Aurelio De La Torre
IEHN board member

Since her retirement from the SSA in 1986, Mata held positions as office manager at Anita's Mexican Foods, Law Offices of Garza and Reyes, field representative for (then) Assemblyman Joe Baca and office manager at Muscoy Elementary School, San Bernardino.

As a member of the Kiwanis Club of Greater San Bernardino, Mata participated in the Villaseñor Library Task Force, Veterans Recognition Committee, Future Leaders, YEMP, Health Fair, Westside Beautification Project, and other community-related projects.

Esther and I were best of friends since age five. For the last two years, we had early walks and talks about many things in common, sharing many thoughts and disagreed on a few. We also had many laughs. She was a very giving person. We had beautiful memories and I will miss her every hour of the day.
Rita Arias

Mata is survived by son, Malcolm Mata, daughters Bernardine Leutz, Sylvia Zicafoose and Desiree Forshay, 13 grandchildren and one great-grandchild, brothers Raymond Lopez and Louis Lopez and sister Braulia Ortega.

The Inland Empire Hispanic News' board of directors, Ray Abril, Jr., Aurelio De La Torre, Graciano and Trini Gomez, Arthur Milian and Ray Nieves and staff extend its condolences to the Mata and Lopez families in the loss of their mother and sister, Esther Mata. She will be greatly missed!

Have a safe 16th of September

Lo único que usted necesita para ser dueño de su hogar es un pago inicial y un sueño. En realidad, lo único que necesita es un sueño.

Pida información acerca de la Hipoteca National Home Ownership Mortgage. SM



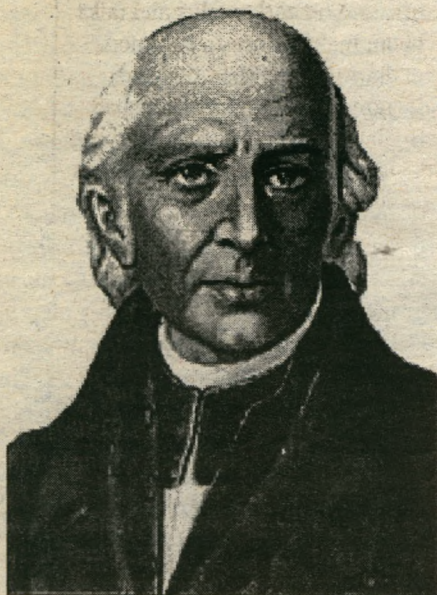
El sueño de tener hogar propio es más realista que nunca. Porque ahora usted podría calificar para una hipoteca de vivienda sin pago inicial y para una cantidad mayor de lo que usted se hubiera esperado. Aunque tenga algunos retos con su crédito o un historial de crédito limitado. Todo debido al programa National Home Ownership Mortgage de Wells Fargo. Este es el momento de hablar con un asesor de Wells Fargo Home Mortgage y preguntar acerca de nuestras guías para calificar más fácilmente. Visite hoy a su Wells Fargo local o llame al (909) 429-0537 para informarse si califica para este programa.* Usted sueña con su hogar, y en Wells Fargo le abriremos caminos.

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16 DE SEPTIEMBRE - Fiestas Patrias: Independencia!



Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla

Guanajuato, a sprawling agricultural and manufacturing center lay quiet and still on a cool September evening in 1810. But around midnight a small detachment of royalist soldiers rode out towards the town of Querétaro. There was no moonlight so the Cavalry rode out by torch light. The local villages and ranches that were scattered throughout the countryside lay quiet while the inhabitants rested in peace oblivious to what was about to happen.

A Querétaro grocer named Epimeño González stirred from a restless sleep as dogs outside would not stop barking. An Indian servant boy quickly tried to wake González, but the calm night was suddenly disrupted by the thundering of horse's hooves. The grocer quickly went about the house and his adjoining mercado shutting windows and chaining doors. He took his servant boy and pushed him through an opening in the roof.

"Run to the Corregidor's house and tell him the soldiers are coming! Hurry! Hurry!" As soon as the boy disappeared into the darkness, the soldiers had surrounded the place. The captain pounded on the front door threatening to tear it down, but Epimeño and his wife refused to comply. The soldiers broke into the house and began tearing through everything in sight ripping out doors, planks, and breaking many of the grocer's wares.

Finally in the cellar, the soldiers found a cache of ammunition, muskets, swords and machetes of every size. "Arrest them," the captain ordered as he glared at Epimeño the grocer was too terrified to run. He had been caught before he had a chance to do anything. The planned rebellion had been discovered.

Two cloaked riders on horseback made their way quickly up toward the rector hamlet of Dolores. When they reached the church they frantically beat on the door begging the sleeping

priest to let them in. The tall lean figure of an aging priest emerged from behind the heavy oak door. After he rubbed his eyes he held his lantern toward the unexpected visitors and he recognized the men as several members of the Querétaro literary circle he had joined months before.

It was the Cavalry Lieutenant Juan de Aldama and Captain Ignacio Allende. "We've been discovered!" Allende said. "Don González has been arrested," Aldama added. The priest brought the men into the rectory then he bolted the door.

"Were you followed?" asked the priest. "I don't think so," Aldama said as he nervously began wringing his hands.

The young lieutenant grieved over the thought of being captured and executed before a firing squad. It was treasonous for a royalist soldier to even think of revolt against the crown in New Spain. Aldama and Allende's death warrants had been signed when the soldiers found the weapons, for it wouldn't take long to torture a confession out of the grocer. The time was not ready for revolt for Captain Allende had not yet mobilized and trained an army.

But the would-be traitors were not with the priest to confess their sins or beg for sanctuary. The priest had a bold idea. He went out to the bell tower and sounded the bells which rang loudly throughout the village and nearby hamlets. Suddenly torches and candles lit up in every dwelling of Dolores. The inhabitants, mostly poor Indian and mestizo peasants, emerged from their homes and assembled before the church where the priest, Padre Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, stood atop of a large boulder with his torch held high. This priest was not that interested in saving the souls of his parishioners, but he fought and struggled to improve the condition of their lives by introducing to the inhabitants new forms of industry to improve at least, their meager economic condition of their lives. In return, these villagers were grateful to their parish priest and they stood by to listen to what he had to say to them.

"Here is our army," Padre Hidalgo said to Aldama and Allende. This priest became the catalyst to a revolution that would not ultimately stop for more than a hundred years! Hidalgo raised his torch over his gleaming bald head.

"My children!," he cried out, "A new dispensation comes to us today. Will you receive it? Will you free yourself? Will you recover the lands stolen three hundred years ago from our forefathers by the hated Spaniards?"

The assemblage of natives than became a mob. Fueled by such words, the people let out a war cry and lifted their torches menacingly towards the night sky.

"Will you defend your rights as true patriots? Long live our Lady of Guadalupe! Death to bad government! Death to the gachupines!"

Then the men followed the priest down towards hidden cellar below the rectory. He took an axe and broke through the wooden planks. Underneath the wooden debris lay another cache of muskets and ammunition. After the weapons were passed around, Father Hidalgo's new "army" was on the march or rather on the rampage. The insurgent army, now turned into a vengeful mob, slaughtered and pillaged nearby towns such as San Miguel, Celaya, and finally the state capital of Guanajuato.

At the Guanajuato granary, called the Alhóndiga, the royalist and other survivors of the pillage stood their final ground until the insurgent army made their way into the fortified granary and slaughtered every last survivor. Hidalgo left part of his army at the Alhóndiga and went off to Morelia to claim more victories. Eventually, the priest would meet his defeat and be captured.

But of course, the Spaniards would retaliate severely. By then most of Father Hidalgo's occupying army had already fled or deserted leaving only innocent townspeople of Guanajuato. A royalist officer, called the Count DeLaCadena, nevertheless he was given an order to prepare for a mass execution.

As the church bell tolled the "death knell," a humble Franciscan friar came out to offer up his own "grito" of mercy.

"These people have committed no crime," the friar said. "Suspend the order for the execution. I beg you in the name of the Lord who will on the last day ask for an account of the innocent blood that will be spilled

here." The count, heeding to the words of Padre Belaunzaran, suspended the order of executions.

This account of the early uprisings for Mexican Independence is, of course, familiar to every Mexican person dead or alive. At first with Hidalgo's unexpected *Grit de Dolores*, the wars for independence began to have social implications that some promise of justice and improved economic conditions for the Indians and mestizo peasants, but Spanish creolos-Spanish born in the New World were at first reluctant to support such a revolution.

Eventually, Hidalgo and his other rebels were captured and executed, burning with their headless corpses any hope of uplifting the peasant's social conditions. In order to make the move towards independence more attractive to the Creoles and other conservatives factions, a royalist officer called Agustín de Iturbide, who first fought to defeat the insurgents, decided to turn the table and join the other side. His price for treason was the first crown of Mexico.

What actually occurred as a result of the wars of Independence was the replacement of one bad government for another. Iturbide's reign, fortunately, only lasted a year. The promises of the Grito De Dolores has been forgotten as Creolos replaced Spanish "Gachupines" in state offices and other responsibilities of power.

Although Father Hidalgo set the path for independence on September 16, 1810, eleven years later the conservative, wealth forces of the new nation put a crown on Iturbide's head making him the Emperor Agustín I. Meanwhile, the rotting decapitated heads of Allende, Aldama, and Father Hidalgo swung in cages from poles outside the ruined remains of the Alhóndiga in Guanajuato whose motto was to become "*donde la vida vale nada*" (where life has no value).

Another chapter in Mexico's history was about to be written.

SCE OFFERS ENERGY, HEALTH TIPS AS THE INLAND EMPIRE BRACES FOR HOTTEST PART OF SUMMER

ROSEMEAD – Southern California Edison (SCE) reminded its Inland Empire customers that the period from mid-August to mid-September is historically the hottest part of the summer in this region. The utility is suggesting several practical steps residential customers can take to stay cool and healthy during the coming weeks while managing their electricity bills.

"During the hottest days of the summer, it is important to balance our efforts to conserve on energy use with the health needs of our families," said Pam Bass, SCE's senior vice president of customer service.

SCE recommends that customers consult their health care provider for suggestions on avoiding and treating heat-related illnesses such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

Here are some energy and money-saving tips that can be found on the utility's Web site:

- Install an ENERGY STAR® programmable thermostat. SCE will provide a rebate to help with the purchase and the thermostat will help manage electricity usage.

Continue on Page 12

SCE OFFERS ENERGY, HEALTH TIPS AS THE INLAND EMPIRE BRACES FOR HOTTEST PART OF SUMMER

Continued from Page 11

- Install a whole-house fan. SCE will provide a rebate and the fan will reduce the need for more expensive air conditioning.
 - Participate in the state's 20/20 rebate program. During August, September and October, residential customers can receive an automatic 20% credit on their next bill if they reduce electricity consumption by 20% compared to the same period two years ago.
 - Make use of the common energy conservation tips—give major appliances the afternoon off, set thermostats at 78 degrees, use clothes and dish washer only when full, and close drapes and blinds on the sun side of a home.
 - Ask SCE about the CARE (California Alternate Rates for Energy) rate discount program for income-qualified customers.
 - Ask about the free evaporative cooler program, an income-based program that makes it possible for customers to cool their home using much less energy than is required by air conditioning.
 - Ask about the Medical Baseline program, which provides more of the lowest-cost electricity each month for households with essential medical equipment.
 - Customers having difficulty paying their electric bills and facing financial hardship can call SCE and arrange to spread delinquent bill payments over several months, helping them get back on their feet financially.
- Customers can call (800) 655-4555 with questions about any of these programs and services.



BEST WISHES FOR A GRAND 16 de SEPTIEMBRE CELEBRATION

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Pictured on left to right
Joanne Long, Probate Paralegal,
Mary B. Jimenez Gonzalez,
Office Manager,
Elizabeth G. Wilkie,
Secretary
and
Ronald G. Skipper, Attorney

Personal Injury/Accident, Civil and Criminal Law

COUNTY SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO SEE GROWTH ON STANFORD-9

Schools in San Bernardino County continued to see growth in 2002 Stanford-9 (SAT-9) examination results at or above the state growth rate, according to figures released publicly today by the California Department of Education.

"We continue to see a general pattern of improvement, with notable gains in spelling and math" said County Superintendent Herbert Fischer.

County scores are growing at or above the state rate in 63 percent of the 43 indicators of student success across the grades. All grades tested (grades 2-11) in the county show increases in both spelling and math.

"We've committed to improving student performance for the students in our county," said Fischer. "Our role at the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools is to assist school districts in their efforts to improve academic achievement for all students."

County schools maintained steady growth, though scores remained below the state average. "We will continue our focus and stay the course," he said.

Fischer noted a number of countywide efforts to improve student performance, including bringing na-

tional leaders in school reform to the county to highlight successful models, training teachers on learning strategies in math, reading and other core areas of study and paying particular attention to schools identified as under-performing.

Fischer commended the hard work of district staff, teachers, students and parents. As a result of district efforts, students are making strides. Students in grades 3 and 4 made 5-point gains in spelling, and grade 6 saw a 6-point gain. Ninth-graders showed a 6-point gain in science. Students in grades 6 through 10 had 4-point gains in mathematics.

"Our overall results show the education reform efforts are working," said Fischer. "The addition of the standard-based scores in the 2002-03 Academic Performance Index (API) will give us even more indication of how well our students are mastering California's world-class standards. County school districts will continue to emphasize student improvement under the state accountability system, with additional changes expected under the No Child Left Behind Act. We're heading in the right direction."

Enseñe pensando en el Futuro

Ayude a que los sueños se conviertan en realidad.



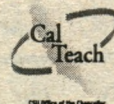
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California necesita maestros, especialmente maestros que reflejen las diversas comunidades de nuestro estado. De manera que, si usted está estudiando en la actualidad, está considerando un cambio de carrera o posee un título extranjero, CalTeach le ayudará a determinar lo que tiene que hacer para obtener sus credenciales de maestro.

CalTeach también le puede dar información sobre programas de ayuda financiera y ayudarle a explorar los incentivos y beneficios que existen actualmente para la enseñanza.

¡Los maestros de matemáticas, ciencias así como los de educación especial y bilingüe, con dominio del inglés, están en gran demanda! Póngase en contacto con CalTeach para más información sobre cómo utilizar sus conocimientos.

Haz la diferencia en tu vida: Enseña.
1-888-CALTEACH (225-8322) www.calteach.com



ANNUAL SALUTE TO THE ROUTE SLATED FOR SEPTEMBER 21ST

Plans have been finalized for the "Ninth Annual Salute To The Route Festival" to be held at the Nuñez Park, San Bernardino on September 21st, with activities beginning at 10:00 AM, according to Joe Rodriguez, committee chair.

"This year will be our greatest for the Salute To The Route with the theme, "Remembrance of 9/11/01-Will Never Be Forgotten". We are pleased with the many sponsors and agency representatives from the area, including the car clubs, service and social clubs. Many volunteers, including the Kiwanis Club of San Bernardino, Lords and Gents and other groups have volunteered to help at the event to make it a great success," stated Rodriguez.

The now-established traditional Westside event, its name derived from the famous Route 66 which runs parallel with Nuñez Park, is a gathering place for many of the Westside residents and many other individuals from throughout the Inland Empire. The traditional car clubs from throughout Southern California generally display their finest cars.

"This event attracted over 5,000 persons who enjoyed an afternoon of music, games, display booths and, of course, the delicious Mexican food," Rodriguez said.

The Salute To The Route has come a long way. In 1983, many of the Westside youth customized their cars and cruised in the area. The San Bernardino Police Department, at that time, cited customized car owners and conflicts developed

as a result of charges of discrimination.

Danny Flores, a longtime Westside resident and a customized car owner, worked with the San Bernardino City Council and found a place where car owners and their families could enjoy their cars without police "interference" or disturbance for the residents. The place was Nuñez Park.

Since 1993, an organized gathering at the park for lowriders has developed into a common area for families to get together and enjoy the camaraderie of friends and reestablish friendships.

This year, however, the Salute To The Route was confronted with the City's Ways and Means Committee in a proposal conflict. The proposal's budget was questioned by the Committee as to the reliability of its figures, the sponsorship by the Gents Organization (a 50-year old service club) and legality of extra funds derived from the event into scholarship funding. Additionally, the question arose as to the City's review and legal proposal process. The final decision, as recommended by the Ways and Means Committee, resulted in a 50% deduction of the Salute To The Route's initial proposal.

Mayor Judith Valles came to the rescue and publicly supplemented the (50%) deductible amount with the Mayor's Fund which, in effect, guaranteed the continuance of the Salute To The Route Event for 2002.

For information on the Salute To The Route call (909) 887-2745.

LISA ANNE-MARIE TENORIO YOUNG SOPRANO EXTRAORDINAIRE

At age four, Lisa Anne-Marie Tenorio would constantly be singing to her grandfather Albert Tenorio. A few years later, recognizing a natural singing talent, parents John and Cecilia Tenorio enrolled their daughter in formal training with Florence Riggs in voice and musical theatre, Susan Holsenbake and Erika Lazerow in classical voice and at the California Institute of the Arts with professor Denise Woods.

Today, Lisa Anne-Marie, 12, has established a wide reputation with her outstanding soprano voice in the Southern California area. Her credits include singing in the Nutcracker at the Hollywood Bowl; The American Ballet Theatre of New York; Santa Clarita Children's Chorus; a role in Anne of Green Gables-Can-

yon Theatre Guild; singing musical pieces in Latin, Italian and English (is fluent in Spanish) such as Ave Maria, O mio babbino caro, Vittoria mio core, Caro mio bien, Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again (Phantom of the Opera; Memory (Cats), and myriad of others musical events.

Her biggest vocal role is in the feature documentary movie "Lourdes" which will be released later in the year, in addition to three personal CD recordings.

We are very proud of Lisa Anne-Marie. She is very dedicated to her singing. And besides, her grades are in the a's and b's. Our family is very close and we frequently travel together, her father said.

ARMC FOUNDATION TO HOLD GOLF TOURNAMENT

The fourth Annual Arrowhead Regional Medical Center Foundation Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, October 18 at the Sierra Lakes Golf Club in Fontana. Proceeds from this worthwhile event will benefit the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC) Foundation, now in its 25th year of existence.

The non-profit ARMC Foundation helps to fund the medical educational needs of physicians, resident physicians and other allied healthcare professionals through its sponsorship of Continuing Medical Education (CME) activities. It has also assisted in procuring special medical equipment to support ARMC's continuing and growing needs.

For sponsorship or other information about the Fourth Annual ARMC Foundation Golf Tournament, please call Ralph Hernandez at (909) 580-6109.

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RIVERSIDE COUNTY TEST SCORES CONTINUE TO IMPROVE

Dr. David Long, Riverside County Superintendent of Schools, on August 29, 2002 celebrated with local school superintendents, board members, and educators the release of 2002 STAR test results that showed continued improvement by Riverside County students for the fourth straight year.

Long credited a close working relationship between the Riverside County Office of Education (RCOE), school districts, board members, teachers and students for the steady improvement.

"Everyone is working very hard on behalf of our students in Riverside County," Long said. "Outstanding educators are getting outstanding results. We are pleased that, for the fourth consecutive year, the test results are up for the major test areas, reading/language arts and math."

Long said that since 1998, Riverside County has been gaining at a faster rate than that of the state. "We understand we have more work to do, but education is making positive changes across Riverside County," Long said. "Through the County Achievement Teams, our partnerships with schools have paid significant dividends in meeting the state's high standards."

Riverside County Achievement Teams are comprised of RCOE experts

in testing, assessment, curriculum, and other educational specialties that are available for schools and school districts to use to help improve academic achievement.

HIGHLIGHTS OF 2002 STAR RESULTS

- Results are for the fifth and final year of the SAT9 nationally norm-referenced achievement test and for the second year of the California Standards Test (CST) in English Language Arts.

- Next year will see much more focus on the California Standards Tests with the new CAT6 norm-referenced test playing a secondary role in the state's accountability system.

- The California Standards Tests have a "proficiency" cut-off score that is much higher than the designated cut-off for SAT9. For SAT9, the proficiency level is the 50th percentile while a comparable level for the CST tests would be around the 70th percentile.

- Riverside County saw a gain on the CST in English Language Arts of 2 percent from 2001 to 2002 (from 27 percent proficient to 29 percent), which matched the gain of the state (31 percent proficient to 33 percent).

- The upward trend in Riverside County on the SAT9 continued for the fifth consecutive year for the four test

areas measured most comprehensively (reading, language, and math at grades 2-11 and spelling at grades 2-8). Gains from 2001 to 2002 ranged from +1 point for reading to +3 points for spelling. For the grades 9-11 science and social science tests—measures that are universally recognized to be less aligned to state standards—scores were unchanged from last year.

- The percentage change from 1998 remains significantly greater for Riverside County compared to the state. The area in which the county has made the greatest strides in closing the gap with the state is in math where the state has risen by 30 percent over five years compared to 43 percent for the County.

- County scores for each subject area remained slightly below the state average. Discrepancies ranged from three to four points depending on subject area.

- District results are presented profiling four districts with which the county has had a close collaborative relationship for the past three years. While starting at relatively low levels of achievement, substantial growth can be seen in these districts since the inception of the STAR program (Perris Elementary; Perris Union High; Val Verde Unified; Coachella Valley Uni-

fied). In Coachella Valley, percentage gains since 1998 have exceeded 100 percent in each of the four major test areas.

- Temecula Unified results show a high scoring Riverside County district that has continued to make significant strides over the past five years.

- While the County Achievement Team (CAT) has worked in collaboration with individual schools in four of the districts showcased (Perris Elementary; Perris Union High School District; Val Verde Unified; Coachella Valley) a substantially different model of RCOE service has emerged during 2001-02 in the Jurupa Unified School District where intervention has been on a districtwide basis.

NOTE: Nationally norm-referenced tests are designed to test a broad range of skills found generally in districts throughout the nation while the California Standards Tests measure skills specific to the California Standards. In addition, norm-referenced tests compare the rank order of student performance relative to a sample of students nationwide (i.e., percentiles) while the standards tests compare student performance to a set, absolute standard of performance (i.e., performance levels).

United States Air Force
711 W. 2nd St., Suite 711C
San Bernardino, CA 92510

Community College of the Air Force Offers Degree Programs

San Bernardino, Calif.—The Air Force is looking for young men and women who are interested in serving their country while earning a college degree, said SSgt. Tanisha Talley, San Bernardino Air Force Recruiting supervisor.

The United States Air Force has always recognized the positive effects of education on Air Force personnel and continually has established various programs to meet the needs of the Air Force, its personnel, and society as a whole.

One of the more notable programs is the Community College of the Air Force

(CCAF). The CCAF is the only two-year military educational institute and the only one serving enlisted personnel.

The college awards an Associate's degree in applied science to personnel who successfully complete

a degree program designed for an

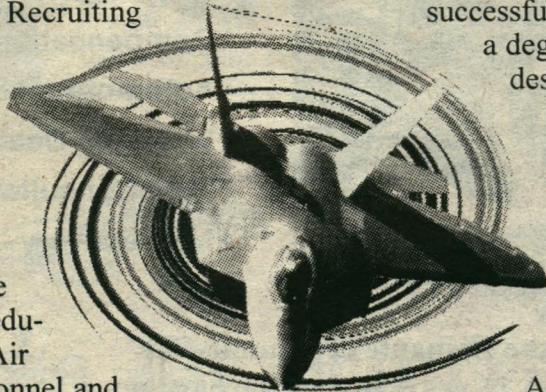
Air Force specialty.

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern

Association of

Colleges and School (SACS) accredits the Community College of the Air Force.

For more information on how to serve your country while earning a college degree, call SSgt. Tanisha Talley at (909) 885-2848 or (909) 885-9598.



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airforce.com

June Rentas Named Inland Empire Job Corps Director

Long-time Job Corps employee June Rentas has been chosen to lead the Inland Empire Job Corps Center in San Bernardino.

Her duties with Job Corps began in 1986 as an instructor, and she eventually held positions as personal development specialist, academic manager and programs director.

As director of the center, Rentas will oversee more than 100 staff members and 300 students, as well as manage an annual budget of \$8 million.

Rentas served in the Air Force and received military recognition for years of outstanding service.

The national Job Corps Center recently honored her for completing several leadership



June Rentas

programs, including the Executive Development Program and Adventures in Management.

Rentas is also an avid community volunteer with several organizations.

Inland Empire Job Corps Center
3173 Kerry St.
San Bernardino, CA 92407
(909) 887-7134



MANÁ DELIVERS ON ITS NONCONVENTIONAL WISDOM IN *REVOLUCIÓN DE AMOR*



The simple concept of Maná—four guys getting together, writing songs and rocking out when the occasion calls for it—is actually very complex.

As one of Latin rock's most popular bands ever, Maná transcends the Mexican roots with poetic ability to express the universal truths inspired by its culture and history. It takes on the things that are important in life: love, justice and freedom. And it does it without sacrificing the things that excite rock fans: musicians getting major groove on with songs that

take the listener through an escapade.

With their new album, *Revolución de Amor* (Revolution of Love), the four-piece band made up of Fher Olvera on vocals, Alex González on drums, Sergio Vallín on guitar and Juan Calleros on bass, has made its strongest album yet. *Revolución's* songs range from ballads to sizzling salsaified struts to wailing rock 'n' roll, with enough electricity to make it one of 2002's most anticipated Latin music breakthroughs.

The new album, the band's first studio album since its 1997 enormously popular *Sueños Líquidos*, doesn't stick to a formula. The secret to Maná's continued success has been its willingness to continue to evolve and expand its music.

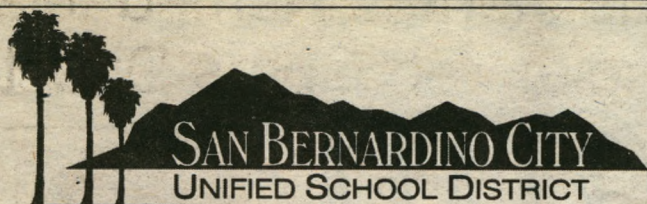
"What's interesting about the band is not having a set style that would limit us," Fher said. "That's why we all act as our own producers. We have no structure, no conventions—we just say what we feel."

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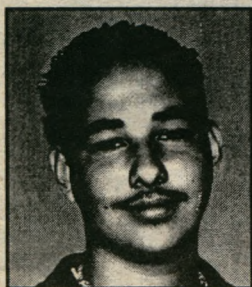
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Sandy Hernandez
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Drake Fierro
11th Grade
Harvard University



Brittany Powell
10th Grade
U.C. Santa Barbara



Armando Obregon
11th Grade
Embry-Riddle University

NEWS RELEASE

THE RIVERSIDE COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (EDA) HAS SCHEDULED A COMMUNITY MEETING FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE HOME GARDENS AREA. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT (CPD) ACTIVITIES (CDBG, ESG, HOME) IN THE COMMUNITY AND TO IDENTIFY FUTURE HOUSING, ECONOMIC, AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS AND RESOURCES FOR THE AREA IN THE 2003 - 2004 PROGRAM YEAR. THE COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION MEETING ALSO PROVIDES A FORUM FOR STAFF TO GIVE A BRIEF PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT/CPD PROJECTS AS WELL AS DISCUSS OTHER AGENCY PROGRAMS. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION MEETINGS ARE A MANDATORY REQUIREMENT OF THE CPD PROCESS. LOCAL AGENCIES HAVE BEEN INVITED TO PRESENT IDEAS FOR PROJECTS IN THIS AREA.

THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AS FOLLOWS:

AREA: HOME GARDENS
DATE: Thursday, September 26, 2002
TIME: 7:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Home Gardens Elementary School
13550 Tolton Ave.
Corona, CA

THE CPD PROGRAMS ARE FUNDED THROUGH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) AND ADMINISTERED BY EDA. THE PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED TO HELP REHABILITATE, AND UPGRADE COMMUNITIES AND NEIGHBORHOODS FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL CITIZENS, BUT WITH PRIMARY EMPHASIS ON LOW AND MODERATE INCOME PERSONS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Andy Frost
Riverside County
Economic Development Agency
3525 14th Street
Riverside, CA 92501
(909) 955-6619

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RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY DEDICATES MIDDLE SCHOOL IN MEMORY OF HOMETOWN HERO

By Marvin Portillo



Charlie Villegas (left), son of Ysmael Villegas holds a portrait of his father's life-size sculpture outside the Riverside City Council's chambers. He and Dario Villegas, a brother of Ysmael Villegas, dedicated the portrait to the students of Ysmael Villegas Middle School.

Members of all walks of life celebrated the lasting legacy of a man who died fighting for his country in World War II and veterans of the armed forces in a dedication ceremony for the new middle school in Riverside.

Ysmael Villegas Middle School, the first public school in the Alvord Unified School District to be named after a person of Hispanic heritage, recently opened its gates to more than 1,200 children.

The name for the school was chosen from a national list of Congressional Medal of Honor recipients that was presented by school district Boardmember K. R. "Zack" Earp. Reaching a final decision did not present much of a challenge, as Villegas was the only one of the 3,000 recipients from the Riverside area.

"It's important to realize that he did not only gave his life for Riverside but the whole nation," said Greg Kraft, who holds a district board position. "He deserved the recognition

He's a hero, and all people should be looking up to him, regardless if they're Hispanic. I don't think we look at George Washington and say that he is only for one group of people. He's for the nation."

More than 50 Villegas family members and relatives were on hand to pay tribute to Ysmael's memory. Charlie Villegas, who was born 10 days after his father was killed in action, rejoiced in hearing the stories that others recounted about his father.

He particularly conjures a memory of his father as a young man living in Casa Blanca, an enclave of Riverside, and cruising the streets of the neighborhood



(l to r) Raul Villegas, Beatrice Zamora, Dario Villegas, Elodia Manzanares, Rafaela Betolla, Art Villegas, Gloria Aguilar, Martha Diaz, Frank Villegas, Robert Villegas and Rudy Villegas, all siblings of Ysmael Villegas.

in his metallic green Dodge—known to friends and family as the green hornet.

Charlie and the 300 in attendance watched a slide presentation of Ysmael and later he and Dario Villegas, brother of Ysmael, presented the children of the new school a portrait of a life-size sculpture of Ysmael and several of his medals, which will be displayed in the school's library.

The dedication included an honor guard presentation of colors by VFW 2293 Arlington and VFW Villegas Post 184, a processional entry by the

Villegas family and a raising of the flag. A tree was planted and dedicated to the memory of Boardmember Phil Stoke, who died in 2001.

Principal Wendel Tucker said he is glad to see the school dedicated after months of preparing for classes. In the past eight months, he and his staff have been transforming empty rooms and halls into a suitable learning facility.

"This is the first time I've had the privilege to open a brand new school," Tucker said. "It's one of those things that doesn't happen often in your academic or professional career, and it is



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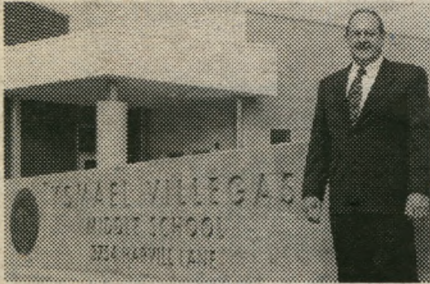
Test Location: 157 West Fifth Street San Bernardino, CA
between Sierra Way and Mt. View.

Test Time: 8:00 AM.

Test Dates: 10/08/02, 11/12/02, and 12/10/02

RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY DEDICATES MIDDLE SCHOOL IN MEMORY OF HOMETOWN HERO

By Marvin Portillo



Wendel W. Tucker, principal of Ysmael Villegas Middle School in Riverside, was selected to lead the fourth middle school in the Alvord Unified School District. The new school is named after Ysmael Villegas, who was honored with a Congressional Medal of Honor for acts of courage in battle during World War II.

truly an honor to have been selected to do this."

When construction of the middle school began 18 months ago, plans were set for the school to become the thirteenth elementary school in the district. However, a vote by the district's board of education in 2001 transformed the planned elementary school into a middle school, eliminating sixth grade from all elementary schools in the district.

Construction for the \$18 million middle school came from a public bond that raised \$57 million for the construction of facilities.



Every country has its battlefield heroes. When one reads or hears about meritorious action above and beyond the call of duty, the national reaction may be a lump in the throat, misty eyes, and a sensation of pride and patriotism.

Adrenalin, which generally lies submerged in a quiescent state in one's body, rises suddenly like a gusher when provoked, enabling a soldier to accomplish feats never imagined. It must be that adrenalin is always ready to surge forth when conditions demand it.

And if the heroic deed is done by a soldier on the other side, I suppose

LOS NIÑOS HEROES

grudging admiration is given.

An event near the end of the Mexican-American War illustrates the above preamble.

On Sept. 13, 1847, a large force of American soldiers attacked the Chapultepec Heights, on the outskirts of Mexico City. A famous castle and a military school were situated on top of this high hill.

When a number of the cadets at the school joined the regular Mexican soldiers defending Chapultepec, two of the cadets, ages 13 and 14, were ordered by their commander to move to safer quarters, away from the action. But the boys' patriotic instincts impelled them to join the battle.

One report indicates that nearby United States soldiers hesitated to engage the cadets because of their age, but the heat of the battle caused the action to continue.

As one of the cadets saw U.S. soldiers approaching the Mexican flag, he himself pulled it down, lest it fall into the hands of the enemy. He wrapped it around his body and jumped off the steep hill on to the rocks below to his death.

Other cadets, including the 13-year-old student, fought bravely, inflicting casualties until they were

overcome. Some became prisoners, some escaped.

Six of the cadets who gave up their lives for flag and fatherland were identified for special attention.

These young men became known as "Los Niños Heroes" ("The Heroic Boys") and attained immortality. Although Los Niños Heroes failed to stop the invaders, they won a place in Mexico's pantheon of heroes.

Over the years, Mexico and its leaders have paid homage to these six cadets in particular by holding appropriate ceremonies.

A monument to Los Niños Heroes has been erected in front of the castle on Chapultepec. It is here that the main memorial observation is held.

While the six cadets receive honors each year on the anniversary of their sacrifice, the celebration does not reach the proportions of the Mexican Independence Day celebration, which is three days later on Sept. 16.

The names of the six military school cadets who became known as "Los Niños Heroes" include Francisco Marquez, age 13; Juan Escutia, age 20 (the cadet who wrapped himself in the Mexican flag); Fernando Montes de Oca, age 18; Juan de la Barrera, age 19; Agustin Melgar, age 18; and Vicente Suarez, age 14.



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